

VALLEY STAR

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

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It's YOUR NEWSPAPER

Young Voters Defy Traditional Stereotypes for Election

By JESSE RICHARDSON
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Students continue to show support for their candidate this political season whether it be through signing people up to vote or making phone calls to battleground states.

California students have increased activity all over the map. Catherine Smith, 16, a supporter of Sen. Barack Obama who describes herself as the "loud liberal at school," said that, "[Volunteering] makes me feel like I can really do something."

Elaine Klock, a volunteer coordinator at the McCain campaign office in Pasadena, when asked if she has seen an increase in support stated, "I've done this for many years, [and] oh yes, I would say so."

The same results have been seen at Obama headquarters in Van Nuys, where many students, in both college and high school, have been phone banking hotly contested states like Missouri.

"I know Obama will be the first African American president, and there will be people who are apprehensive to that," said Yama Fazeli, 16. "I mean to convince people that he is a great candidate that will bring us out of the dark shadow that we have been in for the last eight years."

Volunteers like Smith, Fazeli, Mary Tsaturian, Peter Nguyen and Kush Gur all have taken time out of their schedule to make phone calls to undecided voters.

They are all still in high school and not old enough to vote on Nov. 4. Tsaturian, 16,

explained why she volunteers saying, "Because I can't vote, this is the only way I can contribute and make a difference."

The large numbers of young volunteers may directly relate to voter turnout on Election Day. In a study conducted by Child Trends DataBank, the American youth participating in politics, and specifically casting ballots, has been increasing since 2000. The percentage of youth ages 18 to 24 who reported voting and registering to vote was 42 percent in the 2004 presidential election year, compared to the 32 percent in both 1996 and 2000.

That number is expected to rise after

researchers here in California received the results from the February primaries where the outcome hit 631,292 among

young voters, nearly doubling that of the 2004 Primary of only 341,837. Tim Steed, President of the California Young

Democrats, after seeing the results of the primaries predicted, "Record youth turnout for this primary is just the beginning," and that "the Young Voter Revolution will continue into June and November."

According to a tracking poll from the Washington Post, Obama holds a wide lead, 64

to 33 percent over McCain among 18 to 29 year olds. Although polls show that the major swing of students is mostly in Obama's favor, McCain also has a growing number of young supporters.

Despite the excitement surrounding this presidential election, some students think that others are being too hasty in their selection of candidates. Benjamin Moya, a student and active volunteer at Valley College said, "Students need to make an informed decision- [they need to] read the propositions and not just spit out what they hear on TV"

Job Woes Weigh on Students

By SARAH KNOWLES
OPINION EDITOR

Valley College students continue to struggle with dwindling job opportunities, as the nation's unemployment level remains at a worrying high.

The U.S. Department of Labor's September unemployment report, the last before the election, states that the unemployment rate remained steady at 7.1 percent. The figure has increased by 1.4 percent in the past 12 months.

"There seems to be nothing out there," said 19-year-old job seeker and English major Michael Valencia, who is job searching for the first time. "It's worrying because it's much harder than I thought. I don't know whether it's the economy, I just hope things get better because I really need a job right now."

While both presidential candidates remain optimistic about the see 'Jobs' page 8

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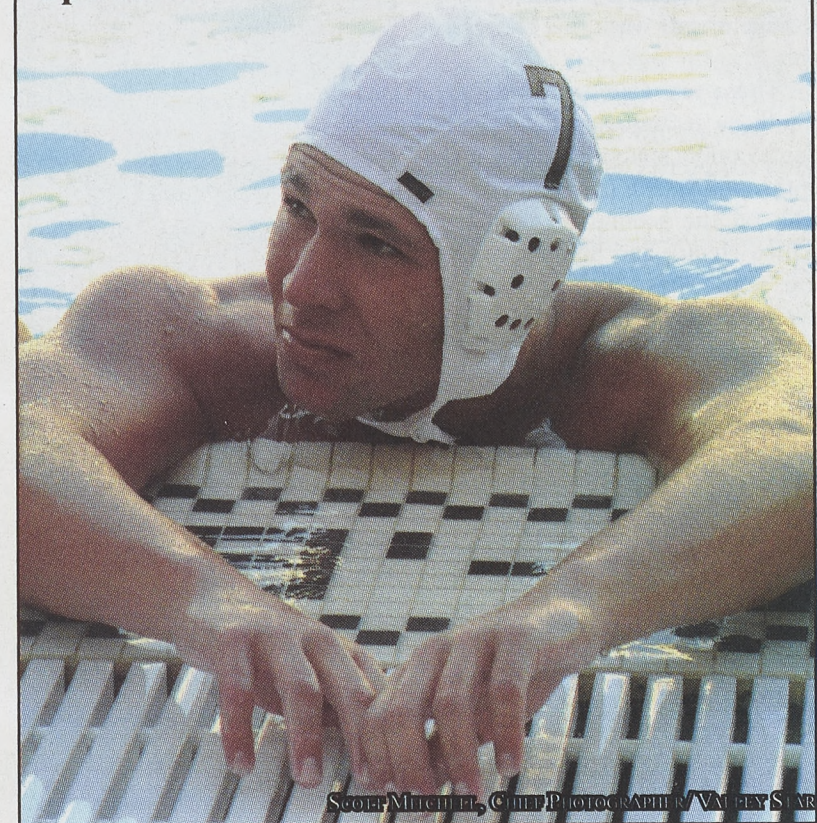
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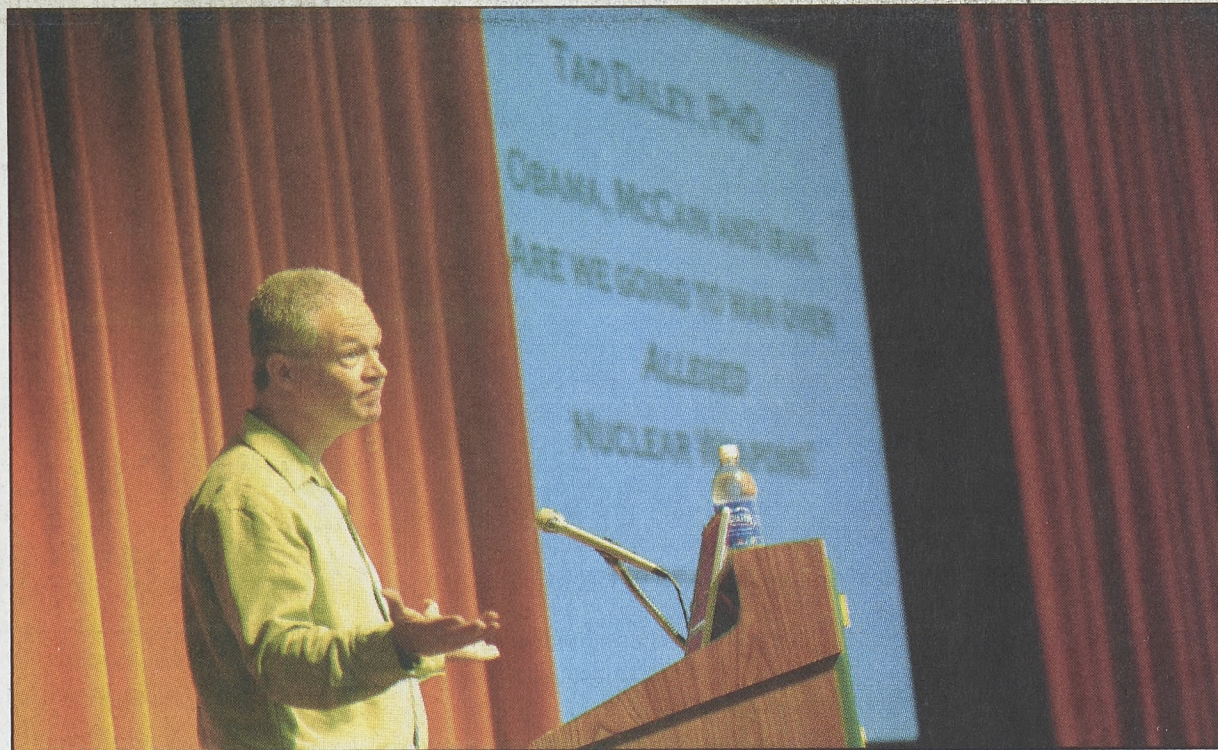
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SCOTT MITCHELL, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER / VALLEY STAR



SCOTT MITCHELL, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER / VALLEY STAR

NO WAR NO NUKES-Professor Tad Daley spells out his plan to end war, remove nukes, and find commonality among nations when he addressed students in Monarch Hall Tuesday morning.

Nuclear Ambition For All

By ASTRID SEIPALT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Author and activist for peace and nuclear disarmament, Tad Daley, spoke at Valley College on Tuesday, highlighting the need for political action in his presentation 'Obama, McCain and Iran: Are we going to war over alleged nuclear weapons?'

Daley, who has served as an advisor to Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) and is an international policy analyst, began his address by urging the more than 150 attendees who packed Monarch Hall to work toward a goal greater than themselves.

"My short-term ambition is to prevent the United States from launching another foolish, illegal, unilateral, immoral war, this time not against Iraq, but against Iran," he said, referring to the ideals of Nobel Peace Prize winner Joseph Rotblat, who resigned from the Manhattan Project in protest of the continued development of the atomic bomb. "My medium term ambition is the abolishment on nuclear weapons, and my long-term ambition is abolishment of war itself."

"If you threaten your adversaries, they'll threaten you back. But if you make your neighbors more secure, you make yourself more secure."

- Tad Daley,
Advocate for nuclear disarmament

Daley was invited to speak by Andrea Barrera, president of the Valley chapter of Democracy Matters, after seeing him speak on the issue in February.

"I left that event feeling deeply moved and enlightened on a whole new issue that threatens humanity as we know it," Barrera said.

Addressing the perceived threat of Iran against the United States, Daley reiterated the three phrases he believed must be uttered by the government: Iran

must not be attacked by the U.S. or Israel, Iran must be persuaded not to acquire nuclear weapons, and all nine nuclear weapon states, including the U.S., must be persuaded to abolish nuclear weapons.

"To dissuade Iran from joining the nuclear club, we must stop

making Iran feel like they have to join the nuclear club in order to protect itself from us," he said. "If you threaten your adversaries, they'll threaten you back. But if you make your neighbors more secure, you make yourself more secure."

He encouraged his audience to imagine how the

see 'Nuclear' page 8

Valley Escapes Fiscal Fines

By LAUREN LEES
STAFF WRITER

Los Angeles Community College District Chancellor Mark Drummond addressed concerns raised by faculty, students, and staff during an Oct. 21 town hall meeting at Valley College.

Throughout the meeting, Drummond repeatedly dismissed rumors about possible fines the district could face for not maintaining the state mandated 75-25 ratio of full-time faculty members to adjunct members.

"I don't think it's an issue. We've addressed it ... Given the dire circumstances of the state, we will not be fined," he said.

With Valley's current \$5 million deficit, the fines could be a step backwards in solving the financial crisis. Drummond has been more active this past year hiring more faculty members throughout the district, including at Valley.

Astronomy teacher and member of Valley's budget committee David Falk feels the threat of the fines could pose a possible threat for the school.

"I am concerned about this because these sorts of fines, unless the district want to tackle it by themselves... have the habit of trickling down to the individual colleges, and make the deficit even worse," said Falk.

Valley President Sue Carleo feels confident the school will not incur any other fines, stating, "Well actually the district developed a strategy to help hire

see 'Town Hall' page 8

Transfer Center Eases Transition to UCs and CSUs

By JASMINE JACKSON
STAFF WRITER

The application deadline for the University of California and California State University systems is coming up next month and many students are relying on the Career/Transfer Center and Counseling Department to provide them with updated information about colleges.

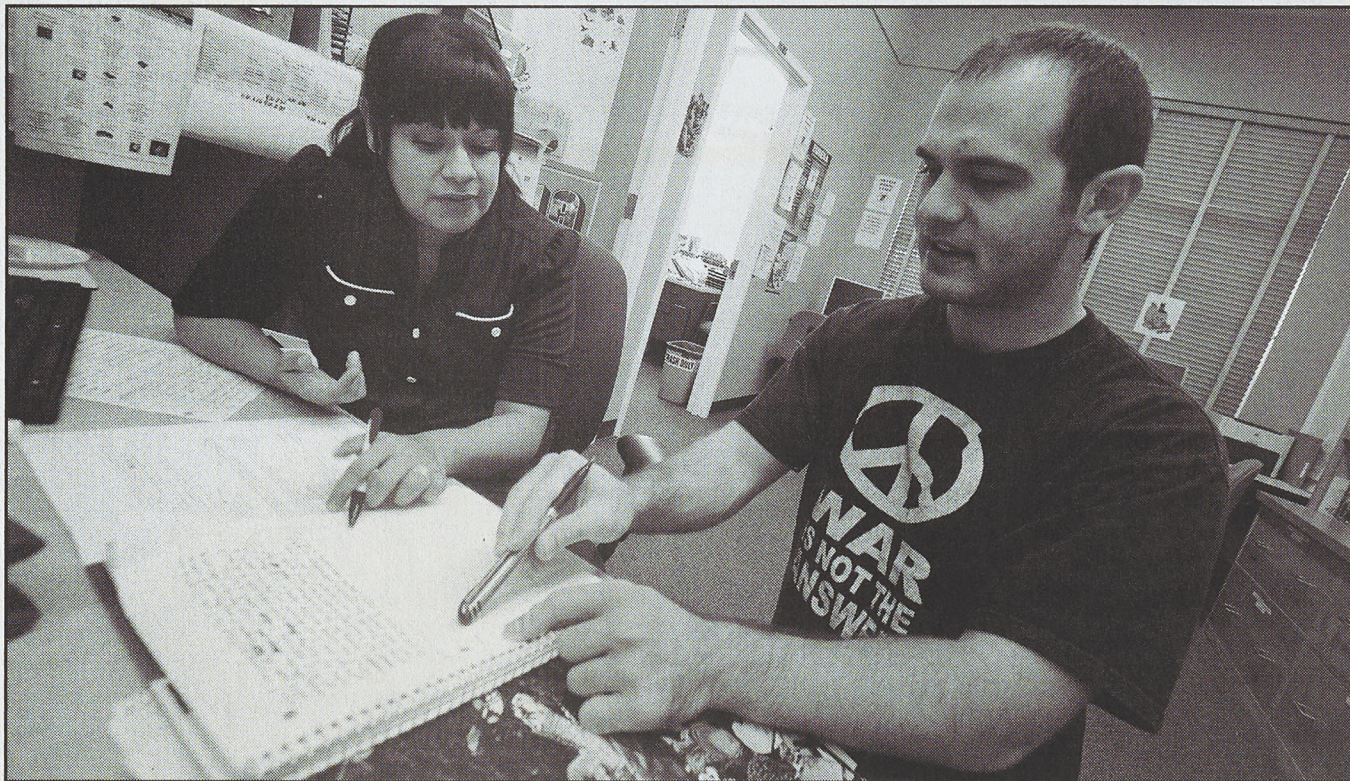
For students, deadline is approaching on Nov. 30 so they need to make sure that they have the proper information about the college they want to go to and the requirements they will need. "One of the greatest things that they offer at this center is the fact that I can attend workshops to find out more about the college I want to go to," said Sarah Raphael, a child development major who is transferring to CSU Channel Islands next fall.

In the Career/Transfer Center, Valley students can sign up for visits to college campuses, and use a computer lab to do research and find information on the schools' requirements.

"It's very helpful for me to come to the Career/Transfer Center because I want to transfer to USC and I found out that they have a very specific curriculum," said Christine Tanner, a business major. Going to the Career/Transfer Center and making an appointment with a counselor can help students gain the information that could help them to transfer successfully, and also to receive guidance on what courses are able to transfer.

Approximately 179 Valley College students transfer to UCs and 802 students end up transferring to CSUs.

"One of the biggest mistakes that many students make when trying to transfer successfully," said Bruce Thomas, chair of the counseling department, "is the lack of information and consultation with counselors who



HELPING HAND – Joseph Glatzer (right), a political science major, gets a helping hand in the construction of his personal statement from CGCA intern Nicole Valdez in the Career/Transfer Center on campus.

provide a thorough understanding of current transfer coursework and requirements specified in articulation agreements between Valley and the UC/CSU systems."

A lot of students believe that private universities are not an option when trying to transfer because of the higher expectations, such as the belief that they need a very high GPA, and for financial reasons, but the counseling department is doing its part to make it easier when it comes to getting accepted. The financial aid office has made it easier for students to get money for college.

"Contrary to some opinion, private school options such as USC, Loyola, Woodbury, and even Ivy Leagues such as Columbia, are as accessible as many public universities," Thomas said. "The bottom line is the fulfillment of transfer course work including major prepa-

ration, a sustainable GPA, and appropriate unit count. There is the myth of private schools being too costly, but the availability of financial aid packages makes private schools a real option." Many students tend to not meet with a counselor an end up not following the requirements for transferring and ultimately take classes they don't need. "This happened to me here at Valley," said Lianne Pierce, a psychology major. "I had just started here and had no idea what the career transfer center was so I made the mistake of taking a lot of classes that were not useful." The Counseling Department is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the Career/Transfer Center is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Both are located in the Admissions Building.

A Look Back at This Week in History

VALLEY Election STAR 1960

Oct. 20, 1960 – The fourth presidential election was set to air nationally on all television networks, though interest was waning in what Presidential candidates John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon had to say. In a poll conducted by the Los Angeles Examiner, it was found that registered voters felt the candidates were covering the same ground in each debate. Electors were also polled as to whom they felt won the third debate, with Vice President Nixon declared the winner.

Oct. 27, 1960 – A record turnout was expected for the national election, as registered voters across the nation flock to polling places to cast their vote early. On the ballot for the Nov. 8 election were 15 propositions, as well as the presidential nominees, one Congressional

Office, a Legislative Office and six judicial posts.

Nov. 3, 1960 – College newspaper staffs across Los Angeles, including UCLA, El Camino College, L.A. City College and Pierce College, showed overwhelming support for the Democratic Presidential nominee, John F. Kennedy.

"Students seem to favor Kennedy more readily than Nixon because of the vitality he expresses," said Mort Saltzman, editor of the Daily Bruin at UCLA.

All the speculation and guessing will be fulfilled on Tuesday when the American public casts its ballot and puts the candidate of its choice into the White House.

Nov. 3, 1960 – "The Debate of the Century," an oration competition series was held on campus today, debating current political issues and the presidential candidates.

Ed Young, a history/pre-

law major at Valley College, and William Masterson, a practicing trial lawyer, participated in the event.

Young, who was in his last semester at Valley, believed that California would be a red state come Election Day.

"California will go Republican by a close margin," he said. "Many California Democrats will vote Republican because they like the Republican platform and they are conservative."

Nov. 8, 1960 – Sen. John F. Kennedy seems to have been assured of the presidency, with the senator from Massachusetts winning 22 states with 329 electoral votes. Conversely, Vice President Nixon had won 27 states, with 194 electoral votes. Nixon had released his concession message, however the final tabulation of the electoral college votes and individual issues would not be complete until later that day.



LOOK MA, NO HANDS—Members of an old school stunt team thrilling the crowd during the Love Ride 25 gathering at the Pomona Fairgrounds Sunday. The daredevils were riding vintage Harley Davidson motorcycles.

Tutoring Labs Make Student Life Easier

By SARAH KNOWLES
OPINION EDITOR

With the semester already half way through, midterms loom over Valley College students like a ton of bricks. But help is on hand with learning labs, free to all Valley students, open across campus for their many study needs.

"There's something different from session to session each day," said Writing Center consultant Anand "Andy" Ramachandran, who has been working in the lab for a year. "Good writing is a universal talent and that is what we want to encourage. It's not just for the English class. It's for history, business, it crosses the disciplines."

Located in rooms 100 and 102 in the Humanities Building, The Writing Center is open Monday through Thursday. The center is available on a walk-in basis except for Wednesday afternoons when a reservation is needed.

Students can take advantage of assistance offered by faculty members who are frequently on hand. Water polo team member and business major Ranford Flemming is grateful for the assistance offered by LaVerne Rosow of the English department.

"She's helping me with the format of my research paper."

The Learning Center, located in the south wing of the library, offers tutoring in a range of subjects, from child development and psychology. Computers are also available for those who may need to complete work.

Valley student Rebecca Pincolini feels that the labs are an untapped gem for many students.

"There is so much help available, it's a shame not to take advantage of it," she said. "We can all do a lot with an extra push. Even if we just need a place to type up our work, it's all available."

There are also learning labs for those technical subjects students may struggle with. An anthropology lab is open in room 232, on the second level of the Allied Health and Science building, while a math center is also available in room 106 in the Math Science Building.

"There are 3 to 4 tutors available at any given hour and each tutor goes around the room and helps each student from 10 to 15 minutes at a time," said Math Lab Supervisor Nick Olshanskiy. "The Math Lab also offers workshops to supplement classroom instruction. Students may also borrow textbooks and calculators."

Making the Personal Statement Count

By ANDY ALCARAZ
STAFF WRITER

With November just around the corner, many students preparing to apply to universities for next fall will be required to write a personal statement as part of the application. For some, this is an exciting time, but for others it can be a time of some added pressure.

"The most important part [of the college application] is definitely the personal statement," said Narine Jugharnyan, a current UCLA student and former Valley College ASU president. "But even though I planned ahead, I had a lot of questions."

The personal statement is a required essay on many universities' applications that usually addresses a personal question for the student to elaborate on. It is designed to assist those deciding which applicants to accept gain a more personal insight into every student applying and is considered by many to be an integral part of a university's admissions decision.

"It's one part of that application that lets the universities gain a better insight into the students," said Scott Weigand, director of the Writing Center. "The universities are looking for an authentic voice. [The personal statement] could be the one thing that sets [a student] apart from everybody else."

To ease some of the pressure on students,

Valley's Career / Transfer and Writing centers team up every November to help transferring students address some of the problems that plague them on their personal statements.

Some of the help offered to students attending these workshops ranges from familiarizing them with a mock [University of California] application, designed to prepare the student for what the application will look like, to helping them with the syntax of their essays and giving them the chance to speak with actual UC representatives about writing personal statements.

"I'm worried about the limit of words able to be used in the personal statement," English major Jacklin Maisyan said. "I'll probably go a couple of times."

The workshops will be held in the Writing Center's computer lab in Humanities 102 on five separate days throughout November. Each workshop will be approximately an hour and a half long and are set up for students who have either already written their personal statements and are looking to improve it, need help finding a starting point and a focus, or for those looking for more information on the topic itself.

The workshops will take place Nov. 3 from 5:30 to 7 p.m., Nov. 4 from 1 to 2:30 p.m., Nov. 17 from 5:30 to 7 p.m., Nov. 18 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and Nov. 25 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Students must sign up for the workshops in the Career/Transfer Center located in Administration 126.

VALLEY STAR STAFF

EDITOR IN CHIEF
ASTRID SEIPELT

PHOTO EDITOR
JONATHAN GIBBY

MANAGING EDITOR
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KRISTEN BECKER

OPINION EDITOR
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STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS

JOHN CAMARENA

PARANDZEM GRIGORYAN

ANA ROSA MURILLO

ADVERTISING MANAGER

CHIP RUDOLPH

ADVISERS

BILL DAUBER

ROD LYONS

thevalleystar@yahoo.com

www.lavalleystar.com

(818) 947-2576

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CAMPUS CRIME

Altercations On the Rise

By SASHA SANTACRUZ
STAFF WRITER

Oct. 15 at 1 p.m., multiple male students were involved in a fight by Monarch Hall. The sheriff detained a person who had several scrapes and bruises on his face, but denied being involved. Students were questioned, and advised of the disciplinary actions when students fight on campus.

The following day at 7 p.m. a cadet was conducting a patrol check of Monarch Square and witnessed a male smoking in a non-designated area. The male was advised of the smoking policy and the cadet directed him to the designated smoking area. When asked for identification the student said, "What the [explicit deleted] you want it for? We just here for the honeys, were not bothering anyone." The cadet once again asked him to present his ID and he replied by saying, "[explicit deleted] man I don't have any ID on me." As the cadet reached for their radio the student then cooperated.



ILLUSTRATION / EDUARDO HERRERA / SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Barack Obama for U.S. President

■ We strongly endorse Democratic Illinois Senator Barack Obama as the 44th President of the United States of America.

STAFF EDITORIAL

This nation is craving change. During the past seven years, we have gone from having a budget surplus to having a budget deficit unlike any other in this nation's history. We went from being respected in the world to alienating even our closest allies because of the Bush administration's cowboy diplomacy. The next president has huge challenges waiting for him – and the Valley Star believes Barack Obama is the man who can meet those challenges and restore America to her rightful place as a beacon of hope for the world.

Obama's first moment on the national stage came with a call for unity over the politics of division. "There's not a liberal America and a conservative America – there's the United States of America," he said during his keynote address at the 2004 Democratic National Convention. "There's not a black America and white America and Latino America . . . We are one people, all of us pledging allegiance to the stars and stripes."

Throughout this unusually long campaign, he has not lost this desire to appeal to all of us as one America. He has sought to address issues, like the failing economy, and the cost of health care and education – issues that many citizens, regardless of party affiliation, care about.

While John McCain and Sarah Palin have launched attacks on his character and raised questions about his patriotism, Obama has stuck to the issues. He has shown respect for the voters in this country and shown that his faith in our intelligence and our ability to make important decisions based on the facts and not just on personality.

As the economic crisis has grown steadily worse, Obama has remained calm and steady – a sign of true leadership and what this nation needs in such uncertain times. While he has not pretended

to have all the answers, he also did not overreact as McCain did when he suddenly suspended his campaign, acting as though he was going to single-handedly save the day.

Obama maintains a realistic view of the world. He is not blind to the real threat terrorism presents to our national security and would not shrink from military action where it is warranted. He does not oppose all wars, but rather "dumb wars" – he will not employ the Bush doctrine of attacking first and looking for justification later.

"As the economic crisis has grown steadily worse, Obama has remained calm and steady – a sign of true leadership and what this nation needs in such uncertain times."

To young adults, Obama symbolizes the next page of American history. It is impossible to talk about this election and not reference its possibility for changing this nation and the relations between races forever. If elected, Obama, whose father was from Kenya and whose mother was from Kansas, will lead a nation whose history is marred by slavery, a nation that as recently as 40 years ago, still denied a segment of its population the right to vote, simply because of the color of their skin.

Obama has inspired millions, regardless of race, age or even political affiliation, to believe in change, to believe that hope rather than anger and division can make our country better. He represents the zeitgeist of the world we want to live in. Much like John Kennedy inspired those in our parents' generation, Obama has inspired countless young people to get involved and make the change we crave happen.

A Fond Farewell to George W. Bush

■ As the election season nears its climax, the time has finally arrived to wave 'Dubya' goodbye.

BY SARAH KNOWLES
OPINION EDITOR

Dear Mr. Bush,

Eight years, two wars and countless terrorist attacks later, the time has finally come to say goodbye.

"I can't wait to see the back of him," said Valley College student Carlos Hamin in regards to your imminent departure.

I can't say many people will be sad, but I for one will miss you. From the War on Terror, the non-existent capture of Osama Bin Laden, and imminent recession the country faces, you sure have left us with many memories we won't forget.

Who could fail to remember that look upon your face on Sept. 11, as you read to pre-schoolers while an official whispered in your ear the first details of the attack on your own country. According to CBS,

you had already been warned of imminent danger that fateful morning, but continued through your day with an early morning jog before heading to the Florida school. Some sources, including British newspaper, The Observer, stated accounts of you already being aware of the attacks.

"Bush was driving to the school in a motorcade when the phone rang. An airline accident appeared to have happened. He pressed on with his visit."

One thing's for sure – we were all assured that the president would never cancel a school visit, no matter what.

From the largest terrorist attack in the United States, things only got better. With the search for Al-Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden still going on to this day, to the incredible way you handled both wars

in Afghanistan and Iraq, you have truly polished our reputation.

As of Oct. 20 this year, 4,186 U.S. soldiers have died in the Iraq War alone, according to the Iraq Coalition Casualty Count. Of course, if you include Iraqi civilians and the Coalition of the Willing, the total is much higher. But as you said during a speech at the National Counterterrorism Center in Virginia August 2006, "The United States of America is engaged in a war against an extremist group of folks."

With so many of those 'extremist folks' to take care of, it's no wonder we have sacrificed so many innocent lives in the process.

In 2008 as the country looms over a recession, you have helped us with the now infamous bailout. \$700 billion has been thrown into the economy, an attempt to ease our money worries that has yet to make

any impression. The Dow continues to tumble and none of us are looking forward to Christmas shopping. In September alone, the U.S. Commerce Department said retail sales dropped 1.2 percent, the largest monthly decline in three years. Things are looking dull for many months, if not years to come. But don't fret Mr. President, it's all charity dinners and luxury for you after your eight years of hard work come to an end.

Here's to you, George. Thanks for everything you have done for America, I don't know where we would be without you. There may have been a few more of us alive, and a few more people with jobs, but hey, we're all just fighting for the best. With everything said and done there's only one thing left to say – please don't let that big White House door hit you on the way out.

What Makes an American?

BY ASTRID SEIPELT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

During the closing weeks of this election campaign, many ideas and catch phrases have been bandied around. 'Joe the Plumber.' Possible election fraud for voter registration. 'Drill, baby, drill.' Whether a tax system under McCain or Obama would be best for the people. Oh, and apparently, some parts of this nation are more 'American' than the others.

"We believe that the best of America is not all in Washington, D.C.," said Republican Vice Presidential candidate Sarah Palin at a North Carolina fundraiser Oct. 16. "We believe, we believe that the best of America is in these small towns that we get to visit, and in these wonderful little pockets of what I call the real America, being here with all of you hard-working, very patriotic, pro-America areas of this great nation."

Palin's comment was echoed by McCain adviser Nancy Pfotenhauer, who asserted, "I certainly agree that Northern Virginia has gone more Democratic...But the rest of the state, 'real Virginia' if you will, I think will be very responsive to Senator McCain's message."

It boggles the mind to think that Gov. Palin and Pfotenhauer believe there are anti-American segments of the United States. There is no logical way of defining how a person or an area can be more American than another. The West Coast is no less American than the Midwest. Serving in the military makes you no more pro-American than a mother staying home with her children. A family who immigrates to live the dream is as patriotic as a family born and raised right here in the States.

Palin is not the only political figure to hint at the patriotic values of Americans. Michelle Bachmann, representative for Minnesota's 6th congressional district has questioned the 'Americanism' of not only presidential candidate Ba-

rack Obama, but also the members of Congress. In an interview on "Hardball with Chris Matthews" Oct. 17, Bachmann said "Absolutely. I'm very concerned that [Obama] may have anti-American views. That's what the American people are concerned about. That's why they want to know what his answers are."

Bachmann also commented that she wished the media would conduct a 'penetrating exposé of Congress members to find if they are 'pro-America' or 'anti-America.' At a speech on Oct. 21 in St. Cloud, Minn., the congresswoman stated that she would like to take back what she said, saying she did not call Obama anti-American, nor did she call for an investigation of Congress.

America does not need to travel back 60

"Serving in the military makes you no more pro-American than a mother staying home with her children. A family who immigrates to live the dream is as patriotic as a family born and raised right here in the States."

years to the era of McCarthyism, and as a member of Congress, Bachmann should know this. Calling into question the intentions of a man that could well be our Commander in Chief for the next four years is unforgivable, especially in a time when America and all nations around the world, need to band together to combat the global economic crisis.

Democratic Vice Presidential hopeful Joe Biden said it best recently at a rally in New Mexico, telling the crowd gathered that "We all love our country in every part of this country. And I'm tired. I am tired, tired, tired, tired of the implications about patriotism."

Hear, hear, Sen. Biden. Let's put this issue to bed and focus on what really matters.

The Futility of Negative Campaigns

■ Hiding behind negative campaigning attacks is an unpleasant tactic and should be left aside while dealing with the country's most important problems.

BY H. GORE
STAFF WRITER

More than 45 million Americans are without healthcare, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, and the economy is crumbling, but don't tell Presidential candidates John McCain and Barack Obama. At a time when the country needs to hear the presidential candidates' messages the most, the two are engaged in a negative campaigning battle that would make Biggie and Tupac cringe.

Mudslinging, attack ads, and negative campaigning all refer to the tactic of using advertising, speaking engagements, and other outlets to point out faults in your opponent, rather than your own strengths. It's a time tested practice that supposedly helps the aggressor, but it should have been put to the side the last couple of months considering our country's financial crisis.

"They should focus more on what they're gonna offer us," said Valley College student Keiarerah Frauchiger. "They need to talk to us about the stock market, real estate, and real problems in the world instead of worrying about calling each other names."

The Associated Press reports Obama and McCain spent a combined \$100 million on advertising in September. According to a study conducted earlier this month by the Wisconsin Advertising Project, McCain's commercials have been negative 73 percent of the time, with Obama not far behind at 61 percent. Money may not be able to buy love, but it doesn't have to be used for hate.

It's disappointing that the senators are

more interested in telling us why their opponent doesn't deserve our vote, instead of telling us why they themselves do. A recent McCain ad labels Obama as 'too risky for America,' after attempting to tie Obama to voter registration fraud. There was no mention of McCain's virtues, only attempts to arouse negative feelings in viewers.

The average voter doesn't care if McCain thinks Obama's a celebrity, and it doesn't matter to them that Obama thinks McCain is divisive. What the people need is a candidate to explain to them how he plans to lower gas prices and how he'll keep America relevant in the global economy.

What makes using the mudslinging approach worse is that neither candidate

stood behind the words of their negative campaigning when they met face to face. Moderator of the final presidential debate, Bob Schieffer, gave Obama and McCain an opportunity to do so.

"Are each of you tonight willing to sit at this table and say to each other's face what your campaigns and the people in your campaigns have said about each other?" said Schieffer.

When it came down to it, Barack Obama and John McCain danced around an opportunity to blast their opponent the way their campaigns had been for weeks. The fact that they didn't want to put their mouths where their money is proves that even McCain and Obama know dirty isn't the way to play.



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LAVC
EVENTS

Wednesday, October 29

"Untidy: the Worlds of Doug Harvey" Exhibition @ 11 a.m.-2 p.m. & 6-9 p.m. (Art Gallery) Contact: (818) 778-5536 <http://www.lavc.edu/arts/artgallery.html>

Thursday, October 30

"Untidy: the Worlds of Doug Harvey" Exhibition @ 11 a.m.-2 p.m. & 6-9 p.m. (Art Gallery) Contact: (818) 778-5536 <http://www.lavc.edu/arts/artgallery.html>

Friday, October 31

Women's Soccer Home Game (LAVC vs. Bakersfield College) @ 4 p.m. (Monarch Stadium); Free - Contact: Chuck Ferrero (818) 947-2508 <http://www.lavc.edu/athletics.htm>

Saturday, November 1

Cooperative Education "Resume Writing/Goal Setting" workshop @ 9 a.m.-12 noon (Bungalow 9) Contact: Cooperative Education Office (818) 947-2333

Football Home Game (LAVC vs. Pierce College) @ 7 p.m. (Monarch Stadium); Cost: \$6 General, \$3 Student, \$1 Kids, Seniors Free - Contact: Chuck Ferrero (818) 947-2505 <http://www.lavc.edu/athletics.htm>

Monday, November 3

"Untidy: the Worlds of Doug Harvey" Exhibition @ 11 a.m.-2 p.m. & 6-9 p.m. (Art Gallery) Contact: (818) 778-5536 <http://www.lavc.edu/arts/artgallery.html>

Cooperative Education "Job Search/Interviews" workshop @ 6:30-9:30 p.m. (Bungalow 9) - Contact: Cooperative Education Office (818) 947-2333

Tuesday, November 4

"Untidy: the Worlds of Doug Harvey" Exhibition @ 11 a.m.-2 p.m. & 6-9 p.m. (Art Gallery) Contact: (818) 778-5536 <http://www.lavc.edu/arts/artgallery.html>

Think Transfer!

Fall 2008 UC and CSU priority transfer application deadline is November 30. Apply on line at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply or www.csumentor.edu

Guarantee your admission to a UC by participating in a UC Transfer Admission Guarantee Program. For program information, qualifications and applications visit the Career/Transfer Center, Admin. 126, or call (818) 947-2646. All events held in the Career/Transfer Center

All events held in Career/Transfer Center unless otherwise indicated. Call (818) 947-2646 for further information.

Tuesday, November 4
CSUN Day information fair 10-1 and 5-7 in Monarch Square-reps from admissions, financial aid, student services, and all 8 colleges will staff tables with information on majors and programs at CSUN. There will also be a CSUN Application workshop from 1-2

Columbia College of New York Transfer Admissions Workshop 1-2 in FL 102

Valley Travel

Horrific Haunts Minus The Crowd

■ Neighborhood attractions offer amusement park thrills without the price tag

BY LAUREN LEES
STAFF WRITER

When the leaves on the trees start to change color, the nights fall quicker, and a chill lingers in the air, it's obvious Halloween is approaching. Little kids agonize over what to be for their treat filled night, while big kids agonize over what horror filled amusement park to choose.

Instead of paying overpriced tickets for long lines, shrieking teenage girls, and not so scary ghouls at the larger theme parks, there are a multitude of smaller variety haunted houses sporadically dotted throughout the Valley.

Pierce College hosts its annual Harvest Festival, featuring kid friendly daytime adventures including hayrides, pumpkin patches, and rock climbing on the weekends. When the moon

looms high in the night sky, their haunted attractions swing into action. Creatures of the Corn, Grow Your Vote Corn Maze, and the Factory of Nightmares await all those who dare to enter.

Not quite ready for full blast frights? The corn maze is a great start to get in the mood for the scary times found in the mazes. The Creatures of the Corn include stalks with lurking dead zombies running throughout and scythes and chain-saws to scare all incoming guests. Factory of Nightmares equally terrifies, with a dizzying indoor maze, popping ghouls and effects.

"I thought it was good, it took awhile to get to the good part, but it was good," said North Hollywood resident Rachel Benter.

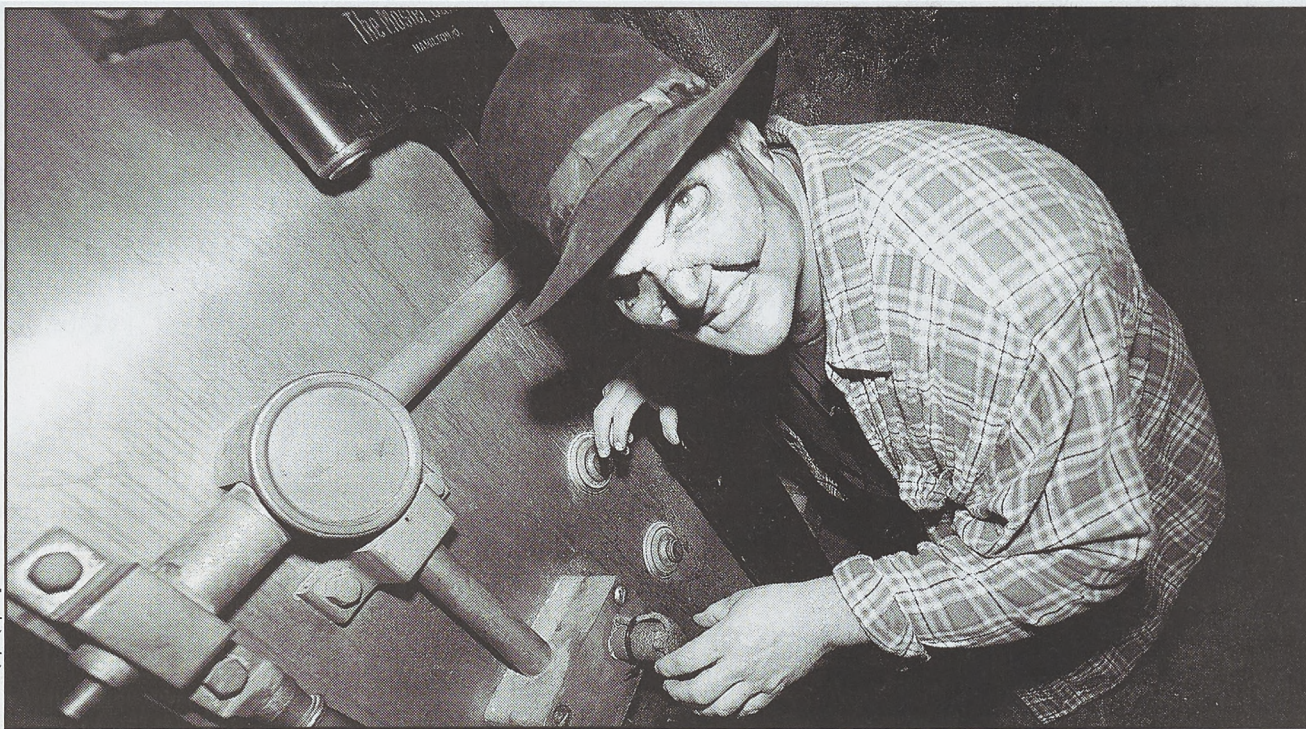
The Harvest Festival costs \$12 for a single attraction, \$20 for the Creatures of the Corn and Factory

of Nightmares, and \$25 for all three. Open everyday, their hours are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. from Sunday to Thursday and midnight on Friday and Saturday, Pierce College's Harvest Festival is worthwhile for a group of friends of a family looking to feel the nightmare month spirit.

On the other side of town, the Spooky House Theme Park in Chatsworth offers a scary tour through a mansion for \$20 per person.

Outside, giant speakers blare club music while a line full of eager people wait in front of the entrance. A werewolf dances to the hits, while an assortment of crazed clowns, zombies, and creepy ghosts trickle throughout the line, adding to the suspense of what is hidden inside.

Once admitted, the guide tricks you into getting your picture taken, right before a blast of air hits your body and a man screams in your ear.



JONATHAN GIBBY, PHOTO EDITOR/ VALLEY STAR

OLD TOWN HAUNT - In the basement of the historical Union Savings Bank in Old Town Pasadena dwells ghouls and goblins that will be haunting for a reasonable price through Nov. 1.

Prexy Flick Picks

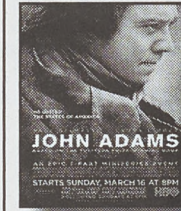
BY BRAD TAYLOR
STAFF WRITER

With Oliver Stones' "W." in theaters and what is being called the most important election in history a week away, now seems like the perfect time to look back on the best films featuring some of Americas' most intriguing president



5. "The Reagans" (2003)
The unflattering and often honest look at the Reagan Presidency was billed as "The film they

didn't want you to see," and with good reason. Judy Davis burns up the screen as Nancy Reagan, giving the first lady a much needed personality. While James Brolin words minor miracles as President Reagan, much like his sons turn as George W., the elder Brolin manages to crack through the impersonation to find the real man. The TV movie was so controversial that CBS yanked it before it aired, but it eventually did get to broadcast and was nominated for several awards.



4. "John Adams" (2008)
This HBO offering was a brilliant look at the life and times of our second Presi-

dent. The mini-series was both harsh and realistic, with Paul Giamatti giving audiences a performance that is understated and not played as a character, but as a man. Laura Linney adds real star power as Abigail Adams. The series was produced by Tom Hanks and won 13 Prime-Time Emmy Awards.



3. "Jefferson In Paris" (1995)
Much more speculation than fact, this beautifully directed film shows Thomas

Jefferson before his Presidency and the controversy around his alleged affair with 15-year-old slave Sally Hemmings. Nick Nolte fills Jefferson with passion and a sense of adventure that is often overlooked in the history books. A young Thandie Newton sparks like wildfire as Sally Hemmings, her performance showing the beginnings of a great actress. This, and the gorgeous backdrop of France in the early days of the French Revolution make this a must-see film.



2. "JFK" (1991)
Oliver Stone was at his political best with this thriller revolving around the assassination of one

of America's most beloved presidents. The film is thrown around as conspiracy and fiction, but shows a harsh look on how we elevated Kennedy to an icon and how his loss sent ripples that are still felt today. Unlike "W.", Oliver Stone has a clear sense of direction here and all actors, including Kevin Costner and Tommy Lee Jones are at their best.



1. "All the Presidents Men" (1976)
No political thriller can match the real life story of the Watergate

scandal, which led to the resignation of President Richard Nixon. Unlike the romance and tragedy of "JFK", this film shines a light on one of our countries darkest hours. Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman are an acting team made in heaven as news journalists Woodward and Bernstein. This movie ushered in a whole new generation of gritty dramas and forced us to accept that even an American President can be the enemy.

Valley People

Democracy Matters for Andrea Barrera

■ Valley College student tries to make a difference with political club

BY LAUREN LEES
STAFF WRITER

If you have ever walked down Monarch Square during club day and saw a young lady with bold framed glasses discussing the government while trying to register you to vote, then you have met Andrea Barrera.

A Valley College sophomore majoring in environmental engineering, Barrera continues to be a force on campus through her involvement with the student club Democracy Matters. As the active president for last two semesters, she strives to educate students on politics, the war in Iraq, and the current presidential election.

"It's very meaningful thing to be involved politically, its very meaningful personally and socially, its very virtuous do to those kinds of things...although it

can be an uphill battle."

Politics for Barrera is like water for Michael Phelps, though it was not until she took a Chicano Studies class during fall of 2007, with Professor Pete Lopez, that she started to care about the way our government operates.

"He was talking about the injustices, the way that the English started colonizing America and I thought it was just unjust and not right," she said. "And he [Lopez] linked a lot of what was going on back then to politics today and how they're still basically screwing people."

Since then, she has spread her wings for a new purpose in life. She spends her nights planning election focused events for her club, such as on-campus debate parties and voter registration drives.

At the age of 24, she

did not immediately go to college after graduating from City of Angels home schooling. In fact, she had no intention of going to college, until she took a class with her manager while working at Subway.

"That [class] really got me interested in going back to school, and I started taking a couple of more classes over the years," she said

Her aunt, Vivian Yochelson, happily listens to her husband, David, fight every night with Barrera over politics and the upcoming election. She appreciates the change politics and school has had on her niece.

"I think it's great I think she has found her niche in life, it has kept her focused, she has a direction for her passion," said Yochelson

Now a full time student, she plans on another two years at Valley, and then



SCOTT MITCHELL, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER/ VALLEY STAR

PASSIONATELY POLITICAL-Andrea Barrera, president of the Valley College Chapter of Democracy Matters, is a woman on the move.

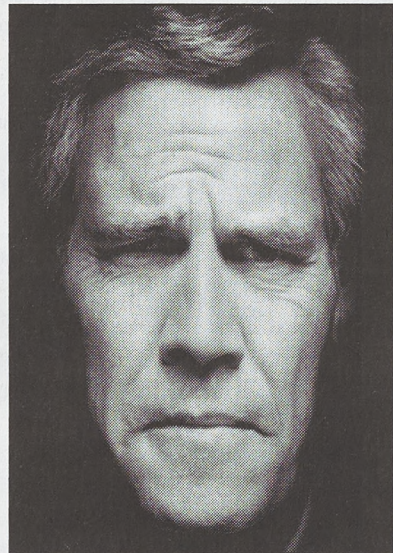
transfer to either Cal State Humboldt, UC Berkeley, or UC Merced. She hopes her major will land her a job within the government working on new resources for energy, while also allowing her to travel and speak on the importance of the environ-

ment and her views regarding politics.

"I know that I am always going to want to do something with politics whether it's being politically active or just being involved and being a conscious citizen of the United States," she said

Movie Review

Brolin Shines, Stone Misses the Mark In "W."



COURTESY OF LIONS GATE FILMS

BY BRAD TAYLOR
STAFF WRITER

George W. Bush and Oliver Stone have a history of being controversial, but in the film "W."

neither icon is at their best.

The director of "Natural Born Killers" and "JFK" takes aim at the George W. and his administration, but it feels like Mr. Stone is going through the motions of directing. There is very little zip and controversy to be found anywhere in the movie. The director spends a lot of time covering events that most people already know.

Josh Brolin is a revelation as George W. Bush. His even handed performance never falls into parody and manages to do the near impossible; Brolin makes W. into a well-rounded man and not just the fool he is usually seen as. Brolin infuses his scenes with a fire that never mocks, even when re-enacting the infamous tale of W. choking on a pretzel. The actor makes you feel worried for the president.

While Brolin commands the screen, the other actors take away any leftover credibility of the film. Bush's presidential cabinet come off as a bad "Saturday Night Live" sketch that goes on much too long. Nowhere is this more clear than in Thandie Newton's performance as Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice. Every time Newton speaks the movie becomes a farce.

Even the most die-hard Bush haters or lovers will have a hard time sitting through this film. Oliver Stone jumps back and forth between young and current W., and there seems to be no center to the story for viewers to hang on to. The story focuses on post-9/11 and Bush's choice to start the Iraq War. However, it fails to shine a new defining light into areas of his two presidential terms, such as the 2000 vote re-count and his rise to

power during the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

The entire film seems rushed for release before the 2008 Presidential Election. Cameras started rolling in May 2008, obviously giving the director very little time to flesh out his vision, if he even had one. What projects across the big screen comes dangerously close to TV "movie of the week" territory.

There just isn't enough time behind Bush's presidency to paint a proper picture of his legacy and Stone doesn't even try to. With all the colorful events in Bush's life, it is a shame that there is so much left untouched in this often boring film. If anything, this film is a good credit for Brolin's resume, much more so than the man he portrays in the film.

VALLEY LIFE

5

Valley Exclusive

Birthright Forms Permanent Bonds in Israel

Jewish youths make the most of free trip to Israel by learning about their heritage while creating memories that will last a lifetime

Article 3 of 3

Staff Writer Joe LaFleur shares about his pilgrimage to Israel, courtesy of the Israeli government, in a three article spread exclusive to the Los Angeles Valley Star.

BY JOE LAFLEUR
STAFF WRITER

The next morning we made our way to the Negev Desert, which is largely populated with trees due to planting programs that have been going on since Israel's birth in 1948. We participated in an archeological dig, with our guide, who was a fast talking Israeli. Although I'm not entirely sure what he was saying, what I did get from his rattling was that there was another group coming in after us and he had to rush us through.

We visited Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial and Museum, the following day as well as ancient cisterns and springs, and then rode to Galilee where we spent the next three days.

The Kibbutz that we stayed in sat on top of a hill in the town of Poria. It overlooked the Mediterranean Sea,

and while weather there was hot, the breeze blowing off the Mediterranean was gorgeous compared to the desert.

We were joined by eight Israeli Defense Force soldiers who stayed with us for the remaining five days of our trip, not as guards, but as participants and inadvertently, teachers. There were now 50 of us. For me, this part of the trip was far greater than I had anticipated.

When the soldiers joined us, Yael said to ask them questions, have a conversation with them, and really pick their brains. "The best conversation you will ever have, will be with one of these soldiers," she said.

These eight men and women were 20 and 21 years old - similar to myself - and I couldn't understand how this could be. I had had conversations with others my age, none of which I could define as the best conversation of my life.

When I did get a chance to talk to one of the soldiers, Natalie Toledano, I realized our guide was right.

Natalie told me about being raised in Israel, her opinion of their military draft and the very real threat of terrorism that she and her family live with every day. She told me that her society forces its youth to grow up fast. I noticed however, that



JOE LAFLEUR, SPECIAL TO THE STAR/ VALLEY STAR
WESTERN WALL-Orthodox Jews sit in prayer at the Western Wall located in Jerusalem's Old City. The wall is one of the holiest places for Jewish people in the world.

despite this, neither Natalie, nor any of the other soldiers, had lost their passion and love for life and their country, despite how much greater their daily worries differ from ours.

In Galilee, we visited a former Syrian bunker and learned about prior conflicts with Israel's surrounding nations. We rafted down a stretch of the Jordan River, took a cruise on the Sea of Galilee and visited the birthplace of Kabbalah - Tzfat. Here we met an American artist, Abraham, who came to Israel from Detroit after college and decided to call Israel his home. He was one of the more interesting people we encountered on the trip, enthusiastic about everything he told us, including his Hebrew name.

"It's 4,000 years old!" he exclaimed. "4,000 years! Do you know how far back that goes? That is so awesomely awesome!"

Our next destination was Tel Aviv, and our one night out in the city was short but fun. We were dropped off at a pier and our initial plan to stay together as a group quickly fell apart when we couldn't decide what to do. In the end, some people went to clubs, others drank on the beach and the rest walked around, taking in the atmosphere. Just like we had in Jerusalem, we left as the night began.

The following day was our last. We visited Har Herzl - "Mount of Memory" - a national memorial and cemetery for the soldiers who have fought and died for Israel. The soldiers dressed in their uniforms to show respect and they told us of

"Inside the airport, we said goodbye to those people who were extending, only 17 of us returned home out of 40."

friends and family who were buried there. After that the soldiers had to leave.

When I said goodbye, I told them to be safe and without exception, each one replied, "I am safe." I find it amazing that in the heart of so much hostility, they remain optimistic. Then again, life wouldn't be as beautiful to them if they didn't have that hope that their children wouldn't have to fight the wars they fight today.

Before we went to the airport, we shopped briefly at a mall that was all too familiar to American culture. One thing that doesn't change when you leave this country is the malls.

When we got to the airport it became apparent; our trip was over. We unloaded our luggage from the bus for the last time, thanked Yael, Rami and Moti for their work and left.

One option that birthright offers is the possibility of extending ones trip. Participants have the option to extend their trip for up to three months, travel on their own and the plane ticket home is still paid for. Inside the airport, we said goodbye to those people who were extending, only 17 of us returned home out of 40.

When I got back from Israel, friends and family asked me, "How was your trip?" and just like those people I had asked before I left, I said the same thing, "amazing." To this they would respond the same way I did. "Can't you give us more than a one or two word answers?" they would ask. I soon realized that adjectives only run so deep and that no description or word could encompass the feeling of the trip, the energy of that nation and the experience of those ten days I spent with 50 strangers. Everyone on that trip left with a newfound sense of something that they didn't have before and everyone took away something different.

TOP 5 STORIES

@ LAVALLEYSTAR.COM

ICE Raids Bring A Chill Of Fear
By Andy Alcaraz/ George Benitez

Presidential Debate Falls Flat
By Kristen Becker

Santa Ana Fires Burn Valley
By Sasha Santacruz

Comedy For A Cause
By Scott Mitchell

Will The Real Candidates Please Stand Up
By Andy Alcaraz

WHAT'S NEW

@ LAVALLEYSTAR.COM

On Tour With Scott Mitchell
By Scott Mitchell

NFL Week 9
By H.Gore

Movie Review- Zack & Miri Make a Porno
By Josh Spence

UNION STATION

BY SHARON HARDWICK

A short ASU meeting wasn't without drama last Tuesday, as Valley College's M.E.Ch.A chapter came to request \$4,000 to help pay for their statewide conference being held at Valley for the first time this past weekend.

For additional content, please visit
www.lavalleystar.com

UPCOMING RELEASES

PICK OF THE WEEK:

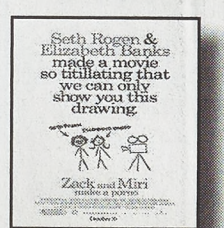


PINK.
FUNHOUSE

OTHER RELEASES:
Eagles of Death Metal, Heart On
John Legend, Evolver
Joe Budden, Halfway House
Queen, The Cosmos Rocks

FILM

PICK OF THE WEEK:

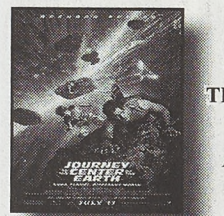


ZACK & MIRI
MAKE A
PORNO,
SETH ROGEN,
ELIZABETH
BANKS

UPCOMING RELEASES:
The Haunting of Molly Hartley
Saw V
Quantum of Solace (Nov.14)

DVD

PICK OF THE WEEK:



JOURNEY TO
THE CENTER OF
THE EARTH
Brandon Fraser

OTHER RELEASES:
Kit Kittredge: An American Girl
Hell Ride
Tinkerbell
Red

DON'T FORGET You Tube

Dinosaur Jr.- Just Like Heaven
Beached Whale Explosion
Metallica- The Day That Never Comes
Husker Du- Makes No Sense At All

DON'T FORGET TO

Boston Legal- Mondays on ABC
House- Tuesdays on Fox
Dinner Impossible-Wed. on Food Network
Celebrity Rehab- Thursdays on Vh1



JOE LAFLEUR, SPECIAL TO THE STAR/ VALLEY STAR
MARKET PLACE- Israeli's and tourists shop at Mahne Yehuda Marketplace, one of the most famous, open- air- markets in the country.

On Campus

Bulletins, Fliers, and Ads, Oh My!

Valley College hallways and walkways are polluted with advertisements

BY LAUREN LEES
STAFF WRITER

Sitting on the steps of the Business Journalism building, 28-year-old Sein Gay looks like every other student, hanging around with a backpack waiting for his next class to start; even going so far as to help out someone by giving them a quarter to buy water from the vending machine. However, putting his generosity aside, he is at Valley College to figure out how to post an ad to find a roommate for his apartment located across the street.

"For me it's [Valley] right across the street, and there are students here and I know what it's like to be a student, so I'm trying to give a great deal", he says.

Gay, like many others are trying to break into the community college student niche, by posting ads and bulletins up and down hallways or classrooms, enticing students into new job opportunities, renting out bedrooms, selling computers, or "Stanford-educated" professional writer selling their own self for research or "writing guidance".

Communication Major Rahul Singh said, "I see stuff like jobs, or people putting up apartments for rent. It's actually very helpful because the people who posted it know who their target consumers are."

Some of these ads promote Valley's services, such as the fliers on the Writing Center breaking down the hours of operation and services offered, or the Career Transfer Center's monthly calendar of events posted all around, which sophomore English major Yester Martirosyan says, "They are interesting, some of them especially about the classes, programs, and transferring."

Some of them are plainly outrageous, such as DNA Customized Nutrition, offering free consultations for DNA based supple-

ments claiming, "If you are not taking customized supplements, then you are not doing everything you can to stay healthy".

Each department has multiple bulletin boards, some for the department use only, and others the equivalent of free speech, meaning a free for all for anyone who wants in on student's attention.

For freshman student Lilian Bridgewater, who likes the idea of the bulletins, and even almost utilized one for a math tutor, does not like the overall ad placement on campus.

"I think some places it's not appropriate because it doesn't look good."

To get a bulletin accepted on campus, one must look no farther than the Student Services Office, where Rosemary Smith checks out and approves all fliers, ads, and bulletins for the campus.

The rules for posting are simple enough, get a stamp, make sure the name of the organization is on it, and it's in English. Complying allows a corporation, person, organization, tutor, students, clubs, or Valley the opportunity to use the hallway bulletin boards, and classrooms as a means to promote their product.

"We can't prohibit, unless it's a commercial thing, then they are limited to 10", states Smith.

Yet some of these bulletins do not have a stamp, and in all reality, it would be impossible for Student Services and Rosemary Smith, to run around making sure every ad on campus is legit.

So students must endure the barrage on their checking accounts, or simply walk pass, like 24-year-old sophomore Mario Alfaro.

"I don't pay attention to them I don't do anything here but go to school."

On Campus



SCOTT MITCHELL, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER/ VALLEY STAR
AUTUMN HORNS-Members of the Los Angeles Valley Wind Ensemble performing in the main theater, Sunday, as part of the ongoing Fall 2008 Concert Series.

Fall Leaves Bring Wind Ensemble to Valley College

Classic and modern music collide at the music department sponsored event

BY SCOTT MITCHELL
CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Valley College wind ensemble performed before an audience of approximately 60 friends, family members and students Monday night as part of the Fall 2008 Concert Series. Dean Immel conducted the ensemble through the hour long concert, which featured an eclectic blend of classical and modern music.

"I wanted to come up with an autumn theme and this collection of songs seemed to work well," said Immel.

The program included "Alleluia" by Mozart, "Anthem for Winds and Percussion" by Claude T. Smith, "Fire Dance" by Douglas Akey, "Thriller!" by Larry Norred, and "March Grandioso" by Roland F. Seitz. The musicians rehearsed for seven weeks for this performance.

"I thought that they did very well. Their high degree of musicianship made conducting a pleasure," commented Immel after the concert, whose father was the first band director at Valley in 1953.

"He's amazing. He knows every fingering on every instrument," commented clarinet soloist Linda Cofsky on what it was like to play under the direction of Immel.

"I came because my husband Larry Wolf plays first flute and piccolo. I think that they need more practice but the last selection was pretty convincing," said Deborah Forbes.

Percussionist Jessica Johnson was recruited by Immel to rejoin the ensemble. Like many of the other ensemble members, Johnson played under Immel for several years, took some time off, and is now back.

"I had a great time playing tonight," reflected Johnson.

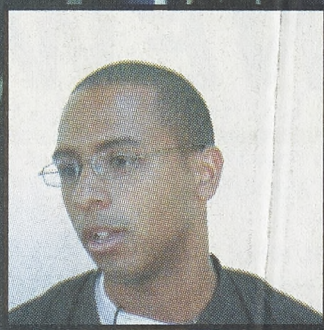
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ELECTION 2008

ELECTION VIEW:

Photos by Scott Mitchell, Chief Photographer
Who Are You Voting For?



"Obama, because we need change, and because I don't trust McCain."

-Jamal Johnson, 22
English



"Obama. My first choice was Ron Paul. [Obama] is a smarter choice than McCain. I'm pretty sure that McCain is going to follow in the steps of Bush."

-Mark Amunuta, 26
Environmental Science



"I'm voting for Obama, he aligns with my politics and because I think he has certainly come across as much more presidential than McCain has done."

-Michael Arshagouni
Head of Music Department



"Ralph Nader, because he supports positions that I am in agreement with. He supports ending the war in Iraq and Afghanistan."

-Dana Lublow
Librarian

PROP. TALK CALIFORNIA PROPOSITIONS

PROP. 1A

Proposition 1A - Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act

YES - The state could sell \$9.95 billion in general obligation bonds to plan and partially fund the construction of a high-speed train system in California, and to make capital improvements to state and local rail services.

NO - The state could not sell \$9.95 billion in general obligation bonds for these purposes.

PROP. 2

Proposition 2 - Standards for Confining Farm Animals

YES - In 2015, state law would prohibit, with exceptions, the confinement of pregnant pigs, veal calves and egg-laying hens on farms, and would allow them turn around freely, lie down, stand up, and fully extend their limbs.

NO - State law would not contain prohibitions concerning the confinement of pregnant pigs, calves raised for veal, and egg-laying hens.

PROP. 3

Proposition 3 - Children's Hospital Bond Act Grant Program

YES - The state could sell \$980 million in general obligation bonds for the construction, expansion, renovation, furnishing, equipping, financing, or refinancing of children's hospitals.

NO - The state would not sell the \$980 million in general obligation bonds proposed for these purposes.

PROP. 4

Proposition 4 - Waiting Period and Parental Notification Before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy

YES - The State Constitution would be changed to require that a physician notify, with certain exceptions, a parent or legal guardian of a pregnant minor at least 48 hours before performing an abortion.

NO - Minors would continue to receive abortion services to the same extent as adults, and physicians would not be subject to notification requirements.

PROP. 5

Proposition 5 - Nonviolent Drug Offenses, Sentencing, Parole and Rehabilitation

YES - Drug treatment diversion programs available for persons charged or convicted for a nonviolent drug possession would be expanded. Parole conditions would be reduced for some violators or be diverted from state prison, and new rehabilitation programs would be expanded for offenders. Possession of less than 28.5 grams of marijuana would have a lesser penalty than under current law.

NO - State and local governments would determine the expansion of existing drug treatment diversion programs. Parole terms would remain at three years for most parolees. The state would not be obligated to further expand rehabilitation programs for inmates, parolees, and other offenders. The penalty for possession of less than 28.5 grams of marijuana would remain unchanged.

PROP. 6

Proposition 6 - Police and Law Enforcement Funding, Criminal Penalties and Laws

YES - The state would be required to increase spending for specified state and local criminal justice programs to at least \$965 million in 2009-10. Sentences also would be increased for certain crimes, resulting in more offenders being sent to state prison and for longer periods of time. Parole agent caseloads and use of hearsay evidence would also be changed under the measure.

NO - State Legislature and Governor would continue to have the current authority over the state funding levels provided for specific criminal justice programs. Criminal penalties would not be increased and parole caseloads and use of hearsay evidence would remain unchanged.

PROP. 7

Proposition 7 - Renewable Energy Generation

YES - Electricity providers in the state would be required to increase their proportion of electricity generated from renewable resources, such as solar and wind power, to 40 percent by 2020 and 50 percent by 2025, or face penalties. The cost for privately owned electricity providers to acquire renewable electricity would be limited by a price cap.

NO - Electricity providers in California, except publicly owned ones, would continue to be required to increase their proportion of electricity generated from renewable resources to 20 percent by 2010. The current requirements on privately owned utilities to purchase renewable electricity would continue to be limited by an annual cost cap.

PROP. 8

Proposition 8 - Eliminates Right of Same-Sex Couples to Marry

YES - The California Constitution will specify that only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in the state.

NO - Marriage between individuals of the same sex would continue to be valid or recognized in California.

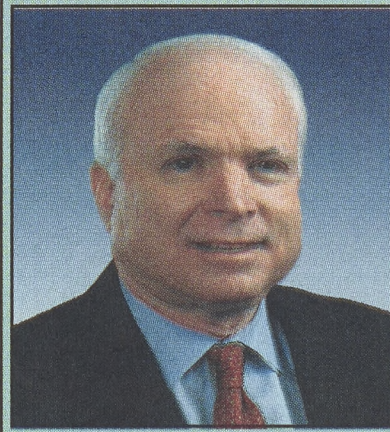
PROP. 9

Proposition 9 - Criminal Justice System, Victims' Rights, Parole

YES - Crime victims would have additional constitutionally guaranteed rights. Payments of restitution to crime victims would be required without exception. Also, early release of inmates to reduce prison or jail overcrowding would be restricted in certain circumstances.

NO - Victims will continue to have the statutory right to be notified of certain criminal justice proceedings, and whether victim restitution would be ordered would remain subject to a judge's discretion. Current waiting periods for parole revocation hearings and parole consideration would remain unchanged. State and local governments could take steps to release inmates early to reduce jail and prison overcrowding.

CANDIDATE BIO: SR. SEN. JOHN MCCAIN OF ARIZONA

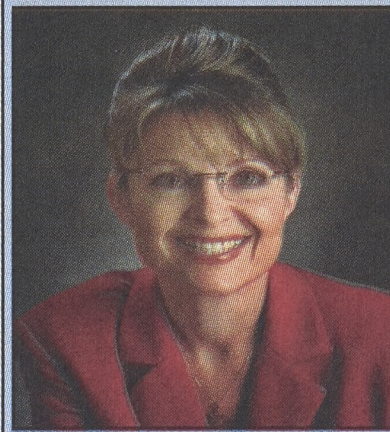


John Sidney McCain III was born Aug. 29, 1936 in Panama Canal Zone. Having his father and grandfather being admirals in the United States Navy, McCain followed in the footsteps. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy and later deployed to Vietnam. He served a 22-year career as a naval aviator. He survived when his aircraft carrier ignited and also became a prisoner of war in North Vietnam for five and a half years. After returning home he worked as the Navy's liaison to the Senate for three years. When McCain retired in 1981 from the Navy, he was honored with medals such as the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Purple Heart and the Distinguished Flying Cross. In 1982, he served two terms in the U.S. House and four years later he was elected to the U.S. Senate. He is currently ranking member of the Senate Committee on Armed Services. He also serves on the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation and Indian Affairs.

UNITED STATES ELECTIONS



CANDIDATE BIO: GOV. SARAH PALIN OF ALASKA



Sarah Louise Heath was born Feb. 11, 1964 in Sandpoint, Idaho. Three months later moved to Alaska. Palin received a bachelor of science degree in communications-journalism at University of Idaho in 1987. She worked for several years as a television sports anchor. Palin's political career began in 1992 when she was elected for the Wasilla City Council and in 1996 she completed two terms as the Mayor of Wasilla. While serving her terms takes on debt and cuts property taxes to keep up with the city's growth. In 2003 she was appointed chairwoman of the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. In 2006 Palin made history as the first woman to become governor of Alaska. While being governor the state invested \$5 billion in savings, renovated education funding and provided benefits for low income senior citizens. Palin is chair of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission which is a multi-state government agency that promotes conservation and efficient recovery of domestic oil and natural gas resources.

ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

OCTOBER 16, 2008 - Democratic debate between Sen. Hillary Clinton and Obama takes place at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia.

MAY 6, 2008 - The media all but declare Obama the Democratic nominee after his victory in North Carolina, even though he doesn't have the majority of delegates on his side.

MAY 11, 2008 - Obama takes the lead in the superdelegate count, which Clinton once led by nearly 100.

MAY 14, 2008 - John Edwards, former Democratic candidate, endorses Obama.

JUNE 3, 2008 - Obama wins the Democratic nomination. Hillary Clinton gives a farewell speech, saying that "Life is too short, time is too precious, and the stakes are too high to dwell on what might have been." Clinton then endorses Obama.

JULY 4, 2008 - Obama celebrates the 4th of July in Butte, Mont., with a parade and picnic. Obama asks the 1,500 crowd, "Are we going to declare our independence from special interests, the oil companies and the gas companies...?"

JULY 19, 2008 - Obama lands in Afghanistan to meet with Prime Minister Karzai.

OCTOBER 15, 2008 - As oil prices soar, McCain proposes a summer-long suspension of the 18 cent federal gasoline tax, calling it a "gas tax holiday."

OCTOBER 21, 2008 - McCain launches his week-long "It's Time for Action Tour," focusing on traditionally Democratic parts of the country, and the people McCain calls "forgotten America."

OCTOBER 22, 2008 - After news breaks that McCain-backer Rev. John Hagee once gave a sermon that suggested Hitler and the Holocaust were part of God's will, McCain denounces the pastor's comments and rejects his endorsement.

OCTOBER 3, 2008 - Steve Schmidt, a former spokesman for President Bush's re-election campaign in 2004 and California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's re-election bid in 2006, tapped to take day-to-day control of McCain campaign.

OCTOBER 29, 2008 - On his birthday, McCain announces that Alaskan Gov. Sarah Palin will be his running mate saying, "She's exactly who I need, she's exactly who this country needs, to help me fight — to help me fight the same old Washington politics of me-first and country second."

OCTOBER 4, 2008 - McCain accepts the GOP nomination at the Republican national convention in St. Paul, Minn. saying he will reach across party lines to "get this country moving again."

OCTOBER 24, 2008 - McCain suspends his campaign and requests that Friday's (Sept. 26) debate be postponed saying the "historic moment in our financial system" warranted his presence in Washington to participate in Street bailout negotiations on the Hill.

ELECTION 2008

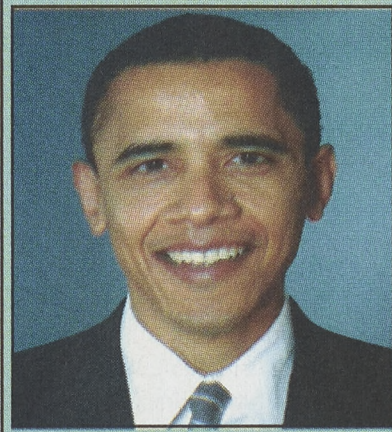


7

ARIZONA

Zone. Having his fa-
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shed Flying Cross. In
e was elected to the
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CANDIDATE BIO: JR. SEN. BARACK OBAMA OF ILLINOIS



Barack Hussein Obama Jr. was born Aug. 4, 1961 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Most of his childhood was spent there, but once he began college he came to the mainland. Transferring from Occidental College, Obama graduated from Columbia University in 1983 with a major in political science and a specialization in international relations. He moved to Chicago where he was a full-time community organizer with a church based group. In 1988, Obama attended Harvard Law School where he became the first black president of the Harvard Law Review. Moving back to Chicago he worked as an associate at a law firm and also taught constitutional law at the University of Chicago Law School. Obama was elected Illinois Senate in 1996 for a district which included some of the poorest areas in Chicago's south side. He served a total of eight years. As a state senator, Obama wrote landmark legislation to stop racial profiling and sponsored a bill to expand medical coverage for uninsured children. In 2004, he won the Democratic primary for the U.S. Senate and held assignments on the Senate Committees for foreign relations, environment and public works and veterans' affairs. In 2007, he left the environment and public works committee to take on health, education, labor and pensions, homeland security and government affairs.

The Electoral College

On Nov. 4, Americans will go to polls and cast their vote for the next president and vice president of the United States of America. In actuality, Americans will be voting for a slate of electors, known as the Electoral College, who have pledged their support to the candidate for whom you vote.

Made up of 538 electors, people like you and I who pledge to vote for a specific candidate, the Electoral College has always been our system for electing the president and vice president. These electors are either chosen by each political party or elected in a state wide popular vote.

The electoral votes are divided among the states based on the amount of members a state has in Congress, which is made up of the House of Representatives and Senate. Each state has two Senators and the number of representatives in the House depends on the population of that state. For example, California is allotted 55 electors or electoral votes because of its 53 House members and two Senators. The District of Columbia is given three votes to equal those of the smallest states.

When Californians cast their vote for a candidate they are effectively voting for the slate of electors that candidate has chosen in California. Whichever candidate wins California, receives the right to send their slate of electors to vote for them.

Only two states, Nebraska and Maine, have what is called a tiered system, where the winner of each Congressional district receives one elector and the winner of the state gets and extra two, allowing each candidate to receive a separate portion of the available electors.

Once a candidate has won a state, those electors gather on December 15 in each state's capital to cast their vote for the president and vice president. The candidate who wins the majority of the electoral votes (a minimum of 270) wins the presidency. However, there is no federal law that prevents the electors from changing their vote leaving it to each state to set that law. Only 27 of 50 states have laws that require electors to stick to their pledge, California being one of them. An elector who changes their vote is referred to as a 'faithless elector,' although this is a rare occurrence.

The Electoral College system does have its flaws and since the election of 2000 when Gore won the popular vote but lost the electoral college to President Bush, the system has been widely debated and outwardly opposed by many. However, until another system proves to be a better match for this country, we will continue to use it, hopefully with more understanding than in past years.

THE MORNING AFTER NOW WHAT?

This time is referred to as the 'lame duck period,' when the president is leaving office and therefore cannot make much progress. However, during this transition time, the outgoing administration will endeavor to achieve as much as possible, making appointment, and issuing executive orders, regulations, and pardons. The new White House staff also take shape, with the office receiving thousands of resumes from hopeful employees.

MORE THAN FURNITURE

The U.S. Cabinet functions as an advisory council to the president, comprised of the heads of executive departments, who cannot be sitting legislators. Members serve at the pleasure of the president and can be replaced at any time. Due to the doctrine of separation of powers, the cabinet is part of the executive branch of government, and therefore carries out policy decisions rather than creating them.

INNAUGURATION

The swearing in of an incoming president traditionally takes place at noon on Jan. 20, with the United States Chief Justice administering the oath. Since 1953, the president and vice president attend a luncheon held by Congress immediately after the ceremony. Other than at the State of the Union addresses, Red Mass, and state funerals, it is the only time the president, vice president, and both houses of Congress gather in the same location.

POET LAUREATE

Poet Laureates have the responsibility of overseeing poetry readings and lectures at the Library of Congress. Their official title is "Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress," but are not required to compose poetry for the government during their tenure. The current U.S. Poet Laureate is Kay Ryan, who follows in the footsteps of previous laureates such as Robert Frost and Karl Shapiro.

FAMOUS FIRST LADIES

The term 'First Lady' is thought to have originated in 1849, when President Zachary Taylor referred to Dolley Madison in this manner during the eulogy delivered at her funeral. Five former First Ladies are still alive today: Betty Ford, Rosalynn Carter, Nancy Reagan, Barbara Bush and Hillary Rodham Clinton. Clinton is the only former First Lady that has later been elected to Congress.

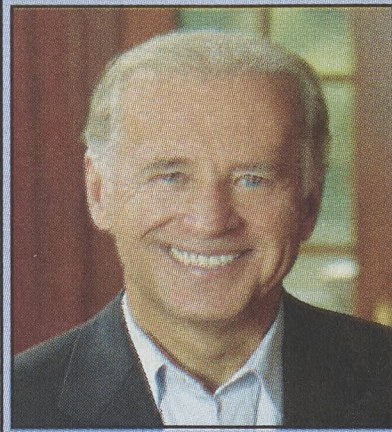
ELECTORAL COLLEGE MAP



ALASKA

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Wasilla City Council
ile serving her terms she
rowth. In 2003 she was
mission. In 2006 Palin
ile being governor the
and provided benefits for
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CANDIDATE BIO: SR. SEN. JOE BIDEN OF DELAWARE



Joseph Robinette Biden Jr. was born Nov. 20, 1942 in Scranton, Pa. When he was 11 years old his family moved to Delaware. After completing high school he attended the University of Delaware and graduated in 1965 with a double major in history and political science. He proceeded to Syracuse University for law school. After which he set up his own law firm and was a public defender until 1972. At the age of 29 he was elected to the Senate and in the preceding years he was re-elected five more times, serving a total of six terms. Biden has served as chairman on the Foreign Relations Committee recent years and currently holds the title. He also was chairman of the Judiciary Committee for 16 years. Biden's Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 put more than 100,000 police on the streets which brought down crime rates. In addition to serving as a U.S. Senator he has been an assistant professor at the Widener University School of Law since 1991 where he teaches a seminar on Constitution Law.

PAIGN TRAIL IN 2008

2, 2008- Obama lands in Afghani-
meet with Prime Minister Karzai

Aug. 23, 2008- In Springfield, Ill. Obama
announces Sen. Joe Biden to be his Vice
Presidential running mate. "I'm proud to
stand firm with the next president of the
United States of America, Barack Obama."

Sept. 26, 2008- The first Presidential
debate between Obama and McCain takes
place at Old Mississippi University. Obama
charges McCain on agreeing with President
Bush "90 percent of the time."

Sept. 30, 2008- Billy Joel and Bruce
Springsteen sign on to play an Obama ben-
efit concert at the New York Hammerstein
Ballroom on Oct. 16. It will be the first
time the two iconic musicians play together.

Oct. 7, 2008 - The second Presidential
debate between Obama and McCain is held
at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

Oct. 15, 2008- The third, and final, Presi-
dential debate between McCain and Obama is
held at Hofstra University in New York, where
a testy McCain tells Obama, "I am not George
W. Bush and if you wanted to run against him
you should have run four years ago."

Oct. 19, 2008- Former Secretary of State
Colin Powell endorses Obama on "Meet
the Press" saying "I think Sen. Obama has
captured the feelings of the young people
of America and is reaching out in a more
diverse, inclusive way across our society."

4, 2008- McCain suspends his
an and requests that Friday's (Sept. 26)
be postponed saying the "historic crisis
financial system," warranted his ap-
e in Washington to participate in Wall
without negotiations on the Hill.

Sept. 26, 2008- the first presidential debate
is not postponed and McCain and Sen.
Obama tackle their platform issues at Old
Mississippi University.

Oct. 7, 2008- The second Presidential
debate between McCain and Obama is held at
Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

Oct. 15, 2008- The third, and final, Presi-
dential debate between McCain and Obama is
held at Hofstra University in New York, where
McCain tells Obama, "I am not George W.
Bush and if you wanted to run against him you
should have run four years ago."

Oct. 18, 2008- McCain defends "Joe the
Plumber" (real name: Joe Wurzelbacher),
who was mentioned 23 times during the last
presidential debate on Oct. 15, saying that
Wurzelbacher asked a tough tax question of
Obama and is being smeared in return.

Oct. 26, 2008 Although McCain told
Obama in the final debate that he is not
George W. Bush, McCain admitted, on
"Meet the Press," that he and President
Bush share "common philosophies" as
Republicans.

Oct. 26, 2008- Dismissing polls showing
he is behind, McCain declares, "I'm going
to win."

'Town Hall'

continued from page 1

developed a strategy to help hire more faculty... and Valley did step up and hire four more faculty members."

Taking a break from Valley's and the district's financial issues, Drummond quickly addressed the problems associated with the Allied Health building, such as lack of Internet and door handles.

"I'm sorry those inconveniences are going on," he said. "I'm sure it's exasperated by having to use it during construction."

Drummond also talked about what the district is doing to take next step towards a new and improved, environmentally aware campus as well as the emphasis in Environmental science in Valley's curriculum.

David Beaulieu, president of the district Academic Senate, congratulated Valley on its progress towards sustainability efforts, including a new environmental science course set to start next spring.

"Hopefully Valley will keep showing the way," he stated.

Marvin Martinez, vice chancellor of economic development, informed the audience that green technologies are currently expanding the

"I think it's always very helpful when the chancellor comes out and talks to us and hears our concerns."

- Sue Carleo,
Valley College President

workforce, encouraging Valley's development in environmental sciences. "How do we begin to prepare our students for that workforce?" he questioned the audience.

"I thought it was a lot of good insight," said ASU Vice President Arthur Minasyan, who



SCOTT MITCHELL, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER / VALLEY STAR
ON TOPIC-Mark Drummond, Chancellor of the Los Angeles Community College District, addressed faculty and students during a town hall meeting in the Fireside Room Oct. 21.

attended the meeting. "I thought there wasn't a lot of resolutions. A lot of the answers were politically answered."

Drummond comes to Valley twice a year, discussing issues affecting the college, and answering any questions from faculty and staff.

Carleo said, "Well I think it's always very helpful when the chancellor comes out and talks to us and hears our concerns."

Drummond mentioned the next major meeting will be a joint meeting between LACCD and the Los Angeles Unified School District, on Oct. 30. It will focus on universal acceptance and concurrent enrollment for high school students in the district's community colleges, and career education for grades K through 8.

It's Not Easy Being Green

BY ANDY ALCARAZ
STAFF WRITER

The world that we inhabit is going through an enormous amount of environmental changes and in an effort to mend these issues, Sustainable Works, a non-profit environmental educational organization that partners with schools, businesses and the community, has come to Valley College.

The program, a six-week course that started on Oct. 17 and takes place in the new Allied Health Building every Friday at 1 p.m., is designed to teach students and the community about the impact people have on the world's resources and how society can address these problems.

"We turn knowledge into actions that improve quality of life by promoting sustainable practices in the urban environment," stated the program's mission statement on its website. "Our goal is to ensure a just society, a clean and healthy environment and a vibrant economy for present and future generations."

Its main focus is to give suggestions about lifestyle transitions that promote greener living in order to adapt to a world full of growing ecological pressures and changes that could prove to be detrimental to the future.

The workshops offered by the program are set up to target specific environmental issues affecting people's daily lives and resources. The topics vary from week to week and include water, energy, waste, transportation, travel, chemicals, shopping and food. Among the things discussed are the problems themselves and the many ways individuals can combat them.

The most recently addressed issue was water. According to Sustainable Works and the city of Los Angeles' Storm Water Public Education Program the Los Angeles region has a 5,000-mile storm drain system that picks up pollutants like cigarette butts, litter, used motor oil and other harmful wastes that could potentially reach beaches or increase the risk of neighborhood flooding. As a result, the state has

to transport cleaner water from other regions around and outside of California to meet health demands, a process that uses 20 percent of California's energy alone.

"Our water supply is going to be hugely diminished by 2050 to the point that it may be difficult to support any population in the western states, not just California," said Radina Valova, instructor of the Sustainable Workshops held at Valley. "The Southern California and especially L.A. area is not meant to support a population of 12 to 15 million people."

In order to remedy this growing fear of water shortage, Sustainable Works advocates creativity in the home when it comes to water usage and conservation. Some of the tips students receive include taking shorter showers, installing low-flow water devices, capturing excess water that drips from the shower and faucets and redistributing it, eating less meat and only consuming vegetables and fruit that are in season. In doing so, Sustainable Works hopes that the current average use of 80 gallons of water per person per day can decrease significantly and become something more efficiently resourced.

The tips students receive are given during a portion of the workshop requiring a survey analyzing the living conditions of people in order to get them to think about change.

"The Lifestyle Survey gets students to really see what their current environmental impact is and what resources they use," said Valova. "It asks really hands on practical questions and allows the student to compare their lifestyles before and after the program."

The Sustainable Works program, traditionally taught at Santa Monica College for the past six years, but now at Valley for the first time, has many students excited about its arrival and the message it teaches.

"Make simple changes and spread the knowledge around so people can pass it around to other people," said Tanja Tanal, student and global warming coordinator for CALPIRG at Valley. "It's just such a vital time for everything happening to the environment. We have to make a difference now or it might be too late."

'Jobs'

continued from page 1

change they can bring regarding the financial crisis and lack of jobs, students are doubting that a transformation in their own employment outlook will be on its way soon.

"Obama says he's going to focus on jobs," said one sociology student who wished to remain anonymous. "I don't know much about McCain, but whoever wins needs to help us out."

With Christmas only two months away, seasonal job opportunities may be a savior for some students desperate to find extra cash for gifts, while Valley offers a job club the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month in the Faculty Lounge. Students can reserve a seat at the club, joining

other job seekers as well as hearing about job search techniques.

"Job Training offers students the opportunity to learn about employment openings in the community, as well as meet directly with visiting employers," said Director of Job Training Lennie Ciufo. "Job Training provides students the chance to enroll in specialized training programs to prepare for potential careers in advanced manufacturing, healthcare, logistics, and for Metro bus operator positions. There are also currently courses in financial literacy to benefit students on campus and from the outlying community."

According to CNN, economists say the current outlook remains unsteady and while there is no sign of a job influx, the next few months will prove critical for job seekers and employees alike.

'Nuclear'

continued from page 1

United States would feel if it were in Iran's position, with "three aircraft carrier battle groups off the coast of Maine, [Iran] building military bases in Canada and was conducting routine patrols in Gulf of Mexico."

Daley's message was well received by the students and faculty in attendance. Valley student Edgar Cuevas thought the speech illustrated how America can avoid presenting themselves as a threat to other nations.

"[He] talked a lot about how we should work on our nuclear weapons program, how we should set the example as the leading nation in the world so other countries can follow suit," said Cuevas, a kinesiology major. "Being a veteran, I have a little more foresight because I've been in areas of the Middle East where they aren't very keen on American ideals."

Andrea Barrera said that education is the most important thing a student needs when wanting to pursue an issue such as a nuclear disarmament.

"You can't work actively toward something if you don't know what you are doing. Students start to get involved in any issue, but then they stop, because one thing that failed to happen was to gain a full comprehension of it," she said.

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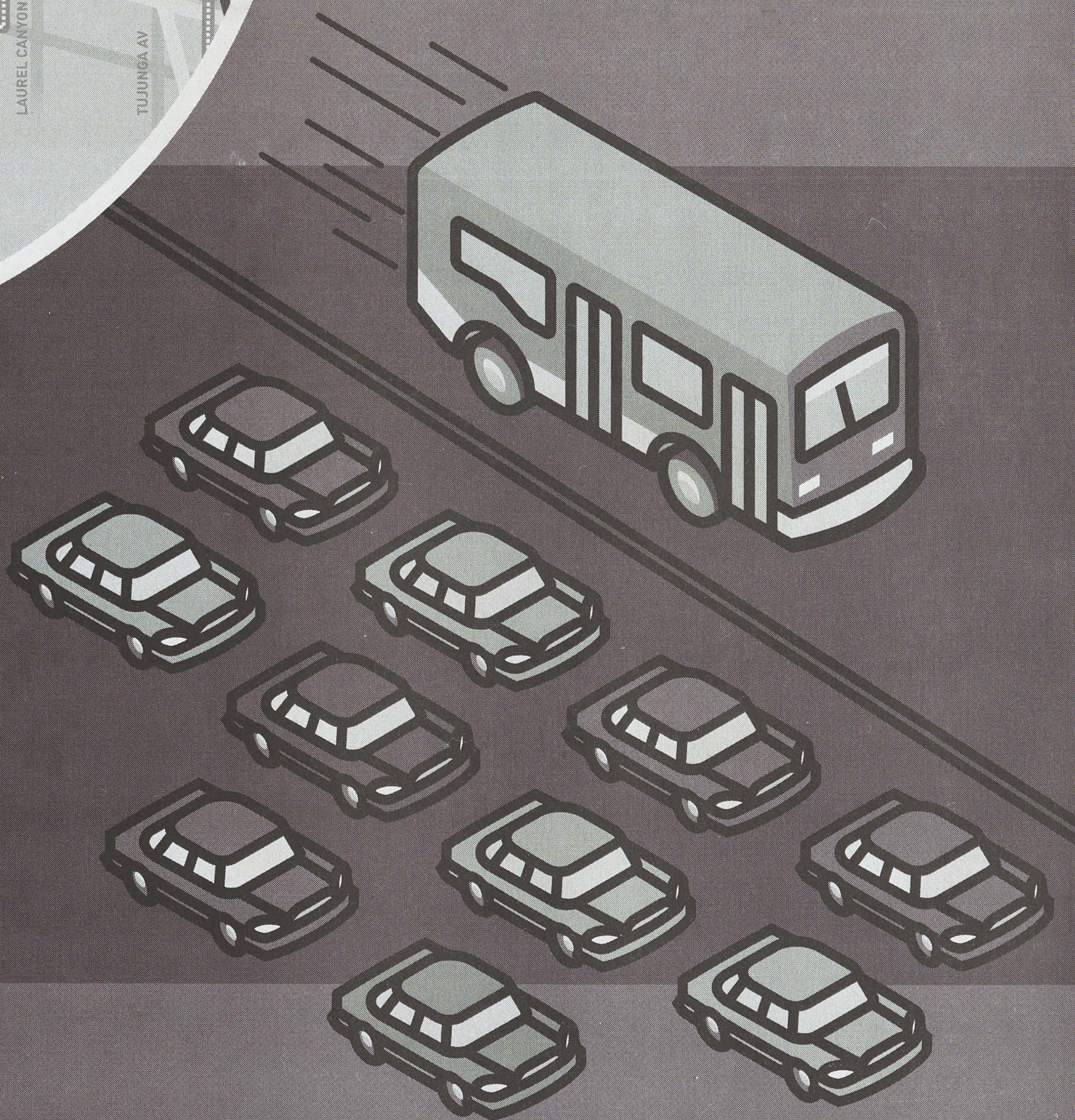
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SCOTT MITCHELL, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER / VALLEY STAR

PRESSING OFFENSE - Valley College running back Marcos Hood makes his way up field during the Monarch's 33-17 win over Los Angeles Southwest College on Saturday.

Monarchs Tame Cougars to Make Three in a Row

BY H. GORE
STAFF WRITER

After sleepwalking their way through a scoreless first quarter, Valley College scored 24 unanswered points en route to a 33-17 victory over the Los Angeles Southwest College Cougars. The game was played at West Los Angeles College Field due to construction at LASC, and featured a penalty filled defensive first half.

"The final tally doesn't really reflect the game," said Valley Defensive Coordinator Leon Criner. "We gave up two late scores with backup guys in but the defense was strong for the whole game."

The Monarchs waited until the final three minutes of the second quarter to put points on the board, but they finished the first half with a flurry.

Quarterback Bret Visciglia scored on a 9-yard run with 2:53 remaining in the half for a 7-0 lead. Linebacker Olea Choulee of the Monarchs intercepted the Cougars 17 seconds later to set up an 18-yard touchdown pass from Visciglia to wide receiver Cordarol Scales. The Monarchs' defense forced a punt with 34 seconds remaining, and Wilmer Segura booted a 45-yard field goal to give Valley College a 17-0 halftime advantage after a perfectly executed 30-yard drive with no timeouts.

In the third quarter, the Valley defense took a break from setting up the offense and scored a touchdown of their own. Wide receiver turned defensive back Jeremy Monegan stepped in front of a LASC quarterback Torrey Harkness' pass and

returned it 35 yards to pay dirt.

"I sat and read the quarterback's eyes," said Monegan. "When I saw where he was going I jumped the route and took it to the house."

Monegan's touchdown pushed the lead to 24-0, and hopelessly out of reach of the Cougars. Wide receiver Matt Johnson caught a 51-yard touchdown pass from Bret Visciglia to close out the third quarter with a lead of 31-3.

The Monarchs tacked on a safety and gave up two late touchdowns for the 33-17 final score. Head Coach Jimmy Sims was pleased with the way the team played, but refused to take any credit for the victory.

"It has everything to do with coaches. It has nothing to do with me," said Sims. "There's an aura around the team and it has a lot to do with coaches bringing the kids together and putting ideas together and the kids following what the coaches tell them to do."

Regardless of who deserves the credit, the Monarchs are 4-3 on the season and are in second place in the American Division Pacific Conference at 3-1. The four victories are the most for any Monarchs team since going 4-6 in the 2002 season.

Game Notes: Play was delayed 30 minutes when Cougars defensive lineman Veylin Stedham injured his back in the fourth quarter. Stedham had feeling throughout his body but was taken to the hospital as a precautionary measure due to a history of back problems.

SPORTS REPORT

FOOTBALL PACIFIC CONFERENCE

COLLEGE	PC	ALL
Antelope Valley	4-0	4-3
Valley	3-1	4-3
Santa Barbara	3-1	3-4
West L.A.	2-2	3-4
Pierce	2-2	2-5
Southwest	1-3	1-6
Santa Monica	1-3	1-6
East L.A.	0-4	0-7

WATER POLO WESTERN STATE CONFERENCE MEN

COLLEGE	WSC	ALL
Ventura	4-0	13-8
Valley	2-1	13-12
Cuesta	1-1	15-11
Citrus	1-2	11-16
Santa Monica	0-4	2-17

WOMEN

COLLEGE	WSC	ALL
Valley	3-1	17-6
Ventura	3-1	13-9
Citrus	2-1	9-10
Cuesta	1-2	9-19
Santa Monica	0-4	0-9

SOCCER WESTERN STATE CONFERENCE SOUTH WOMEN

COLLEGE	WSC	ALL
Pierce	7-0-1	13-2-3
Santa Monica	5-1-2	9-1-5
Bakersfield	5-1-2	9-4-3
Glendale	3-3-2	6-5-4
Citrus	3-5	7-9-2
Mission	2-5-1	5-10-1
Canyons	2-6	3-14
Valley	1-7	3-12-2

Corsairs Sunk by Valley Strength

■ A last minute move away from home doesn't affect Monarch dominance

BY SCOTT MITCHELL
CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Valley College women's water polo team torpedooed the Santa Monica Corsairs 22-6 in their own backyard Wednesday afternoon, after a last minute move away from the Monarch home pool due to heating problems.

Monarch scoring sensation Lybov Tchougounova scored 8 goals, while Felicia Orozco, Liliana Gomez and Vanuhi Ovasapyan all contributed with three apiece.

"This was our third conference game, [it] puts us at two and one and in a very, very strong position to make a challenge for the conference championships," said Monarch Coach Michael Santo.

The fact that the Valley won, even though the team has not been able 'to get in the water and clean things up' for the past two weeks, was also a plus for Santo.

"We just have to keep on working... Just after the game, the girls swam 2,000 yards. They haven't been able to train at home so we took care of things on the road," he

said.

Co-Head Coach Megan Winchell echoed the thoughts of Santo, acknowledging that the women had a rough lead up to the game.

"They didn't have much water time. So for us to come out and play the way that we did and get a win, I was really proud of them," said Winchell. "Luba [Lybov Tchougounova] is our star shooter, she is always amazing and gives a great performance. Lachee [Singleton], our goalie, did awesome today making some big saves and really good blocks."

The men's water polo team were also victorious, defeating the Corsairs 9-7 in a match that saw the Monarchs lead for all four periods. The men scored the first three goals of the game, and with under two minutes left in the first half, Santa Monica goaled quickly to bring the score to 3-2. However, in the second half Valley soon took the score line to 4-2 and maintained at least a two goal cushion for the rest of the match.

Monarch goalie Adrian Marcinkowski had a solid game, making several saves



SCOTT MITCHELL, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER / VALLEY STAR

NOWHERE TO HIDE - Valley College water polo player Greg Fields unleashes a powerful shot just inches from the Santa Monica goalkeeper in the Monarch's win on the road.

under pressure.

"I'm pleased with the way that we played today. We still have some things that we have to work on and improve as we approach the upcoming conference tournament," said Valley Head Coach Jim McMillan. "Some of it happened today and some of it we still

have to work on."

The water heaters have not been working properly for the past few weeks in the new Valley swimming pool, however McMillan down played the situation, saying "Water is water. As long as we have water we can train."

Monarchs Fly High in Eagle Mission

BY SCOTT MITCHELL
CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Aggressive play, improved ball control and a four goal first half helped the Lady Monarchs Soccer team defeat Mission College 4-1 at home on Tuesday afternoon.

Freshman Lucia Tobar scored the first two Valley goals, with freshman Jessica Romero bringing the home team's score to four. The Lady Monarchs dominated play during the entire first half of the game and took a 4-0 lead by the end of the first half.

Noelle Arias' strong play and hustle was an important part of game play for the Monarchs, with her skill leading to several scoring opportunities.

The Eagles stepped up their game in the second half, with sharp passing mixed with a more aggressive effort leading to an early goal. However, Mission missed out on adding to their score because of several scoring opportunities that went wide of the open net.

"We could have done better. We just needed the heart to play,"



SCOTT MITCHELL, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER / VALLEY STAR

UNSTOPPABLE - Jessica Romero scores one of her two goals in the lady Monarch's win over Mission College at home on Tuesday.

said Mission freshman right wing, Natali Martinez. "They [Valley]

"It was nice to get that win, and we did it in style with four goals in the first half."

- Valley Head Coach
Shane Watkins

were connecting their passes."

As sun started to cover the turf in Monarch Stadium, the final whistle blew, leaving the ladies in green up by 3 goals and

a "W" in the win column.

Coach Shane Watkins said that the win was a long time coming, though he hoped to rest the girls and give them a chance to recuperate from injuries.

"I think that it has been at least ten games since we won a game... It was nice just to get that win and we did it in style with four goals in the first half," he said. "We didn't come out and defend out lead like I would have liked to and put the game away in the second half like we should have. [Mission] came out strong

SPORTS OPINION

All the 'Manny' in the World is Useless

■ The Dodgers need to look to the future and point their resources in a new direction.

BY ANDY ALCARAZ
STAFF WRITER

I have been a Dodgers fan for over twelve years. My love for them started when I was around 9 years old and since then I have seen them through their ups and downs, their moments of glory, their upsets, their close calls, their losses and celebrations.

As such, I have also seen them go through a number of different players that either showed up big during games that mattered, or didn't show up at all. One such player that comes to mind above the rest when it comes to showing up is Money, excuse me, Manny Ramirez; the 'Money' not only standing for his ability in crunch time, but also what he is going to be asking for this offseason.

As is the case with all big names, a big contract is required. In 'Money's' case, it would most likely have to be the biggest, considering the fact that Scott Boras, a man who has inked many of baseball's biggest money deals for many big players, is his agent.

If the Dodgers were to give in and sign 'Money' long term for hundreds of millions of dollars, and his performance gives them no reason not to, they would be signing themselves into a great player who could generate great revenue, but unfortunately it would be the wrong move. I'm not very old, but I do know the team's history and that they can't afford to repeat past mistakes. Every time they have dished out money to a superstar, it has always come back to bite them in the ass.

Kevin Brown is one Dodger who failed to make the grade. He was the first major league baseball player to sign a contract worth more

than \$100 million, yet after one 'good' season he flopped, having never duplicated his previous numbers. Then there was Darren Dreifort, the \$55 million pitcher that played all but a half of a season for the Dodgers in a contract that obligated him to play five. The two most ineffective signings yet are Andruw Jones and Jason Schmidt, with Jones playing the bench and Schmidt never likely to make it into a Dodgers uniform again.

If anything is true for the Dodgers, it is that they must turn things around by starting in a new direction. I'm not saying that 'Money' will be a disappointment, which he has not been and I believe won't be, but it's time for the Dodgers to invest elsewhere. For years they have ignored their farm system, considered by many to be the best, and opted instead for quick fixes. In doing so, they have allowed some superstars of their own to slip by, most notably Paul Konerko and Pedro Martinez.

It's best that the Dodgers don't sign 'Money.' True he led them to the playoffs, but one man can't do it forever. His leaving will give the Dodgers a chance to start over and enter a new era of policy. They can be the team that develops talent instead of shipping it off or buying it elsewhere. I'm willing to sit through a couple of losing seasons to wind up on the winning side in the long run. Hell, I'm even willing to watch Manny Ramirez, gold-plated dreadlocks and all, crush a monster homerun in the ninth inning out of what was once Mannywood to defeat the Dodgers in a playoff game. Especially if it means that in the end, the Dodgers will be laughing their way to the World Series year after year, while Money sits bed-ridden in an overpriced convalescent home watching it all on TV.